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Services of Thomas Lewis in the Revolution.

[This paper not only shows the services of Thomas Lewis, but gives the procedure used in proving pension claims under the act of 1832. The "Andrew" Thornton should be Anthony Thornton, county-lieutenant of Caroline county, 1781.]

Pleas and proceedings had before the Hon. William C. Keen, Special Judge, At a Court of Probate held at the Court House, in the Town of Vevay, County of Switzerland, State of Indiana, on the Eighteenth day of the August term of said Court.

In the matter of Thomas Lewis, on Declaration, in order to obtain the Benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June, 1832.

Now on the 18th day of August, 1832, personally appeared in Open Court, before the Probate Court now setting, Thomas Lewis, a resident of Switzerland County, in the State of Indiana, aged 68 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7 June, 1832, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated, to-wit:

That he, the said Thomas Lewis in 1781, in March or April, in a Company of Militia commanded by Captain Coleman Sutton or Taylor in the Regiment of Virginia Militia commanded by Col. Andrew Thornton. In 1781, in June, in a Company of Militia commanded by Captain Coleman, Sutton or Taylor, in a Regiment of Virginia Militia, commanded by Col. Thomas Matthews. In 1781, in September, in a company of Militia commanded by Coleman Sutton or Taylor in the Regiment of Virginia Militia, commanded by Major Carey of the Continental Army. And that he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State. The Court then propounded the following interrogatories to the said Thomas Lewis:

1. Where and in what year were you born? I was born in Caroline County, Virginia, on the —— December, A. D., 1764.
2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? I have no record of my age, but believe I was born on the 18 or 20 of December of that year as I have been informed.
3. Where were you living when called into the Service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War? and where do you now live? When called into the Service I resided in Caroline County, Virginia. About Seventeen years in Genesee County, N. Y. About three years in Butler County, Ohio, and Fourteen Years in this County, and have never been out of the United States.

4. How were you called into Service—were you drafted—did you Volunteer, or were you a substitute? and if a substitute, for whom? I was drafted three different times.

5. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the Troops when you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your Service? General Lafayette, Gen'l Washington. General Lafayette commanded us at the Siege of York, but Gen'l Washington commanded when Cornwallis Surrendered. After Cornwallis surrendered we were marched to Winchester and from thence to Fredericksburgh, where we were discharged. In the month of March, or April, 1781, was drafted in Caroline County, Virginia, in a Company of Virginia Militia commanded by Captain Coleman, Sutton or Taylor. I served three tours under those Officers, but cannot recollect positively which Captain commanded the first tour in the Regiment; commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Thornton, and served for the full term of two months, and was discharged or disbanded at Fredericksburgh, Virginia. Again in the month of June of the same year I was drafted in the same county in a Company of Virginia Militia commanded by either Captain Coleman, Sutton, or Taylor, I have forgotten which one of them, in the Regiment Commanded by Col. Thomas Mathews, and served as a private soldier for the full term of two months. We rendezvoused at Chesterfield and marched to headquarters by Major Spootswood, when Col. Mathews took command at a place called Point of Fork. From thence we followed Cornwallis towards Jamestown, when our service expired and we were disbanded near Jamestown. Again in August or September of the same year I was drafted at the same place in a Company of Virginia Militia commanded by either Captain Coleman, Sutton, or Taylor (I have entirely forgotten which), in the detachment commanded by Major Carey, of the Continental Army. When the company was organized we rendezvoused at Todd's Ware House and marched from thence to Gloucester and joined the forces commanded by General Wheedon, of Fredericksburgh, and served for two months and two weeks. About one month before the capitulation I was appointed Second Sargeant of this Company.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it signed, and what has become of it? I never received a written discharge.

7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your Character for Veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution. Newton H. Tapp, William Scudder, Allen Wiley, William Cotton, David McCormick, George Markland, Daniel Haycock.

8. Have you any documentary evidence of your services and do you know of any person now living whose testimony you can procure to

testify to your services? I have documentary evidence in my possession. I have lately heard of Thomas Haws, who is living in Kentucky, who has a Knowledge of my services, but do not know it positively.

THOMAS LEWIS.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Edward Patton, Clerk.

We, ———, a Clergyman, residing in ——— County, and State of ———, and Newton H. Tapp, residing in Switzerland County, State of Indiana, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Thomas Lewis, who has subscribed and sworn to the above Declaration, that we believe him to be Sixty Eight years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier in the revolution, and that we concur in that opinion.

NEWTON H. TAPP.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Edward Patton, Clerk.

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named Thomas Lewis was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states, and the Court further certifies that it appears to them that ———, who has signed the preceeding certificate, is a clergyman resident ——— county, and state of ———, and that Newton H. Tapp, who also signed the same, is a resident in Switzerland County, and state of Indiana, and is a creditable person, and their statement is entitled to credit.

STATE OF INDIANA, }
County of Switzerland. } ss:

I, E. E. Kelso, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Switzerland county, State of Indiana, do hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a full, true and complete copy of the Declaration & Evidence given by Thomas Lewis, a Revolutionary Soldier and applicant for Pension, together with Certificate of Newton H. Tapp and the Declaration of opinion of the Court as the same appears of Record in Complete Record (Probate) "A" for years 1827 to 1834, now on file in this Office.

Witness my name and the seal of said Court hereunto affixed at Ve-vay, Indiana, this 18th day of August, 1896.

E. E. KELSO,
Clerk Circuit Court.